

1. I wish to express my support for all three proposals contained in the Commission's Notice of Proposed Rulemaking ET Docket 02-98 and have comments specifically regarding RM-10209, the proposal to create an amateur service allocation at 5.25MHz – 5.40MHz.
2. Over the years amateur radio operators have demonstrated countless instances of public service. In some cases this service has been for the public's convenience, in others it has been a life-saving and invaluable necessity. To a great extent, it is the amateur's flexibility that has made this service possible. The flexibility in the type of emissions an amateur can employ, spanning a circuit as simple as a keyed oscillator to complex systems utilizing spread spectrum techniques, as well as the flexibility in the use of frequencies available, from VLF to submillimeter waves, has been the hallmark of success in amateur radio operators being able to "get the message through" under difficult circumstances.
3. Based upon my experience attempting communications over a Los Angeles to San Francisco path in the evening hours employing both the 40 and 80 meter amateur bands, the utility of the proposed availability of an amateur band at 5.25MHz to 5.4MHz is of no doubt. Forty meter propagation was consistently seen going "long", with the path of interest subject to significant interference and fading before 80 meter frequencies became usable.
4. Any regulations adopted for amateur use of the proposed 60m band should be forward looking in the sense that the amateur service has repeatedly shown the ability to responsibly use its limited resources while demonstrating good amateur practice. Bandplan requirements, emission type and power level limitations, and operator class use restrictions are unnecessary burdens upon both the Commission and the flexibility that makes the amateur service the valuable public asset that it is, and therefore should be minimized.

Sincerely,

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